

In the Claims

1 (currently amended). A method of recycling a solid support for cultivation of anchorage-dependent cells located within a system for cell cultivation comprising the steps of:

- a) emptying liquid from a system for cell cultivation that comprises a solid support and a liquid, or removing said solid support from said system~~said system of liquid~~;
- b) ~~rinsing said system~~after step (a), rinsing the solid support with an aqueous solution;
- c) ~~rinsing said system~~after step (b), rinsing the solid support with a sodium hydroxide solution; and
- d) ~~rinsing said system~~after step (c), rinsing the solid support with an aqueous solution to provide a recycled solid support,

wherein said solid support is made of non-woven fibrous matrix bonded to a porous support sheet or is a microcarrier.

2 (original). The method of claim 1, wherein said aqueous solution is water.

3 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein said sodium hydroxide solution is at a concentration selected from the group consisting of:

- a) within a range of about 1% to about 3% sodium hydroxide;
- b) within a range of about 1.5 % to about 2.5 % sodium hydroxide; and
- c) about 2% sodium hydroxide.

4 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein step (d) is performed at least three times.

5 (original). The method of claim 4, wherein step (d) is performed three times.

6 (original). The method of claim 4, wherein step (d) is performed five times.

7 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein said aqueous solution in step (b) is Water For Injection (WFI).

8 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein said aqueous solution in step (d) is Water For Injection (WFI).

9 (previously presented). The method of claim 4, wherein step (d) is performed with Purified Water (PW) except for the last repetition of step (d), which is performed with Water For Injection (WFI).

10 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein said solid support is made of non-woven fibrous matrix bonded to a porous support sheet.

11 (original). The method of claim 10, wherein said solid support is a disk made of non-woven polyester bonded to a sheet of polypropylene mesh.

12 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein said solid support is a microcarrier.

13 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein said system comprises a bioreactor.

14 (original). The method of claim 13, wherein said system further comprises an external column connected to said bioreactor.

15 (original). The method of claim 13, wherein said bioreactor comprises an internal column.

16 (previously presented). The method of claim 14, wherein said solid support is located within said column.

17 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein said system is sterilized after performing step (d).

18 (previously presented). The method of claim 14, wherein said external column is sterilized after performing step (d).

19 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein step (d) is carried out with a circulation loop flow selected from the group consisting of:

- a) within a range of about  $500 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$  to about  $700 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$ ;
- b) within a range of about  $550 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$  to about  $650 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$ ; and
- c) about  $583 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$ .

20 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein step (d) is carried out at ambient temperature.

21 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein step (d) is carried out under an overpressure selected from the group consisting of:

- a) within a range of about 100 millibars to about 900 millibars;
- b) within a range of about 300 millibars to about 700 millibars; and
- c) about 500 millibars.

22 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein step (d) is carried out for a duration selected from the group consisting of:

- a) within a range of about 5 minutes to about 30 minutes;
- b) within a range of about 5 minutes to about 20 minutes; and
- c) about 10 minutes.

23 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) is carried out with a circulation loop flow set at a value selected from the group consisting of:

- a) within a range of about  $500 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$  to about  $700 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$ ;
- b) within a range of about  $550 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$  to about  $650 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$ ; and
- c) about  $583 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$ .

24 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) is carried out for a duration selected from the group consisting of:

- a) within a range of about 20 minutes to about 40 minutes;
- b) within a range of about 25 minutes to about 35 minutes; and
- c) about 30 minutes.

25 (currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) is carried out at a temperature selected from the group consisting of:

- a) within a range of about  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$  to about ~~70 minutes~~  $70^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;
- b) within a range of about  $55^{\circ}\text{C}$  to about  $65^{\circ}\text{C}$  ~~minutes~~; and
- c) about  $60^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

26 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) is carried out at a temperature selected from the group consisting of:

- a) within a range of about  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$  to about  $70^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;
- b) within a range of about  $55^{\circ}\text{C}$  to about  $65^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; and
- c) about  $60^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

27 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) is carried out under an overpressure selected from the group consisting of:

- a) within a range of about 100 millibars to about 900 millibars;
- b) within a range of about 300 millibars to about 700 millibars; and

- c) about 500 millibars.

28 (currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) is carried out for a duration selected ~~from~~ from the group consisting of:

- a) within a range of about 5 minutes to about 30 minutes;
- b) within a range of about 5 minutes to about 20 minutes; and
- c) about 10 minutes.

29 (withdrawn). A solid support for cultivation of anchorage-dependent cells recycled according to the method of claim 1.

30 (withdrawn). The solid support of claim 29, wherein said solid support is a disk made of non-woven fibers bonded to a porous support sheet.

31 (withdrawn). The solid support of claim 30, wherein said solid support is a disk made of non-woven polyester bonded to a sheet of polypropylene.

32 (withdrawn). The solid support of claim 29, wherein said solid support is a microcarrier.

33-37 (canceled).